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Saint Martin's Day. No less than eight inches of snow fell during the night - after midnight. Wonderful! The adventure continues! At the moment (11:30 A.M.) I have the most glorious sensation of being snowbound, although I probably could "get out" if necessary. I am supposed to speak <sup>tonight</sup> at the First United Methodist Church (to a Women's Group) in Carbondale, and hope that I soon receive a telephone call to tell me that it has been cancelled/postponed. On Verra. No talk was scheduled about a year ago by Joan Cosgrove and Sharon Dietz, both of whom are very nice women.

Fortunately, I did not receive any calls to substitute yesterday and so I spent several hours yesterday winterizing the pigeon lofts: covering the generous sun porch opening and trap entrance; sealing cracks between boards and covering air vent holes. To my great pleasure, there is not a flake of snow at the inside of either loft, and all is very well with my dear flying tipplers. Chanticleer and Mildred appear very well also - their coop is somewhat more exposed, and I shall have to provide more cover for them very shortly. This morning, Mildred was comfortably settled in on the perch; Chanticleer was

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seated very regally in the straw/wired grass. Both have their full winter plumage now and are quite beautiful, as are the tipplers.

As I may have noted already in these pages, I am now into my second year of tippler breeding and flying. On October 27, 1985, I acquired my initial stock (not high quality birds by any means) from Chester Grimes. I have culled all but one of those original Grimes birds (Phoebe, record #4) and have centered my breeding and flying program around the Ogozalek birds. My tippler totals for wintering over are:

12/7/86 - a young female has turned out to be a male, so the total is 10 males, 8 females.  
9 young males; 7 old males  
9 young females; 8 old females  
18 young birds 15 old birds  
12/11/86 [10 males / 8 females]

a specific list of these 33 birds is given on the following page. I will not allow the 18 young birds to breed until next year. They will be rigorously flown in the spring and early summer. Some of them have proved their worth already, but many of them have not: too hot during July & August; moult during those months and September.